Contact: Sandy Gutierrez Date: February 23, 2005 Release No: 05-033

NEWS RELEASEOfficer Involved Chase

This information is based on a preliminary investigation. Around 10:15 PM on Tuesday, February 22nd, San Antonio Police Officer Joey Vidal, a 4-year patrol officer assigned to the West Substation, was in his marked police vehicle when he saw a white 1993 Jeep Cherokee cross three lanes of traffic on Loop 410 around the Culebra exit. He suspected the Cherokee was being driven by a drunk driver and attempted to stop the vehicle by turning on his overhead lights and activating his siren. The vehicle did not stop and continued to flee. The suspect's vehicle then exited the highway, turned onto Ingram Road, then turned onto Timberhill with Officer Vidal following.

In the 5500 block of Timberhill, the suspect lost control of his vehicle, ran over a wooden fence and hit a tree in the backyard of a house, 7202 Moss Creek. The driver was killed on impact and a passenger was transported to University Hospital for treatment. The chase lasted approximately 4 minutes. Officer Joey Vidal was not injured.

No one in the house at 7202 Moss Creek was injured. However, the house was damaged from flying debris.

At the scene, a flask and a bottle of liquor were found in the suspect's vehicle.

The driver has been identified as Jacob Matthew Schlentz, DOB: 1-3-85 of Laredo, Texas, and the passenger has been identified as his brother, Caleb Schlentz, DOB: 8-28-87 of San Antonio.

These same suspects may have been involved in an aggravated assault with a motor vehicle a few minutes earlier at Loop 410 and Ingram Road. The victims state they were intentionally side-swiped by the Jeep Cherokee.

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